



Shannon Decker &lt;shannon@thespeedyfoundation.org&gt;

**Re: National Three Digit Hotline - Your Comments Needed**

1 message

Shannon Decker &lt;shannon.decker@gmail.com&gt;

Thu, May 30, 2019 at 12:36 PM

To: Shannon Decker &lt;info@thespeedyfoundation.org&gt;

I personally support the creation of a three-digit, Nationwide, phone number for those in suicidal crisis b/c my life has been transformed by the impact of loss due to suicide. I lost three people close to me, the last being my cousin, Jeret "Speedy" Peterson and Olympic Silver Medalist. His friends and our family created a nonprofit in his memory where we advocate for change, hold conversations to end the stigma that prevents people from seeking help AND the stigma that prevents helpers from offering help, as well as evidence based education.

I left my career in public education to work on this in the states of Idaho, Utah and Nevada in 2016.

I am more than happy to share more information from boots on the ground and the confusion behind current phone numbers.

Creating a phone number as easy to remember as 911 for those in crisis will save lives and as well as resources to be redirected towards treatment.

Thank you in advance,  
Shannon

Shannon S. Decker

m| 208.870.7904

"She was warned. She was given an explanation. Nevertheless, she persisted."

On Thu, May 30, 2019 at 12:24 PM Shannon Decker &lt;info@thespeedyfoundation.org&gt; wrote:



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Suicide Prevention &amp; Mental Health Advocacy

# Submit Your Comments

to the FCC regarding a dedicated 3 digit crisis line number - the deadline for public comments of June 7, 2019.

You may file your comments on this report via the [fcc.gov](https://www.fcc.gov) site.

## Submit Comments to FCC Here

Submit a Filing

1  
FILING

2  
REVIEW

3  
CONFIRMATION

Proceeding(s)	suicide
Name(s) of Filer(s)	18-336   Implementation of the National Suicide Hotline Improvement Act of 2018 *Required - Add Filer(s). Press ENTER key after each entry
Law Firm(s)	Add Lawfirm(s). Press ENTER key after each entry
Attorney/Author Name(s)	Add Author(s). Press ENTER key after each entry
Primary Contact Email	example@email.com

In 2018, while attending the American Association of Suicidology Conference in Washington DC, The Speedy Foundation ran into Rep. Steve Eliason (Utah) & Ross Van Vranken (UNI's Executive Director) who happened to be on Capitol Hill promoting the West's urgent need to address suicide rates. The need for the US to have a three digit hotline to help prevent suicide.

The ball is moving and we are doing all we can, but we need your individual voice now.

In 2019, Rep. Caroline Troy (Idaho) passed a bill urging Idaho's congressional delegation to support designating a simpler number — 611 — to the national suicide prevention and mental health crisis hotline.

In a state where suicide rates are among the highest in the nation...she believes it's important to provide easy access to help in a time of crisis.

"Nobody can remember (the Idaho number)," said Nilsson Troy, a member of

the Idaho Council on Suicide Prevention. "You have to go online and look it up, and if you're in a crisis, who has time to do that?"

- [Idaho bill supports changing crisis hotline to 611](#)
- [Trump Signs New Bill to Simplify Suicide Prevention Hotline to 3-Digit Number](#)
- [Hatch, Stewart bill to create national 3-digit suicide prevention hotline goes to president](#)



A M E R I C A N  
ASSOCIATION OF SUICIDOLOGY

S U I C I D E  
P R E V E N T I O N  
IS EVERYONE'S  
B U S I N E S S

## Largest Suicide Prevention Membership Organization Calls for Dedicated National 3-Digit Hotline Number

### [Press Release Here](#)

We are currently experiencing a suicide crisis in this country with historical increases in suicides over the last 10 years. The suicide rate is up in almost every demographic at a national level, it is the 10th leading cause of death overall, and the 2nd leading cause of death for youth under 25. We need to take action now to change this course. A major step in this effort must include using a dedicated telephonic system across the United States to improve access to life saving services.

As the FCC is reviewing this matter, AAS believes it is important to make a statement about the options being discussed and to add our voice to this discussion. AAS strongly believes suicide prevention deserves its own unique 3-digit telephone code.

To date, suicide prevention has been relegated to the already overburdened 911 system. Changes to this inadequate and inefficient system should not be addressed by simply adding onto an existing 3-digit code, such as 211, who most often are not prepared to handle these calls. This is not only important in terms of global suicide prevention and public health messaging, but in prioritizing the needed simplicity of telephonic access during these crises. Individuals experiencing a mental health crisis and their families should not be confused about who or where they are calling for help.

*"We have known for a long time that the 911 system in the United States is not the ideal location to handle calls for mental health emergencies and request for assistance...AAS is in full support of individuals in crisis and their families/friends to have a suicide prevention number exclusive to this purpose."*— Becky Stoll, LCSW,

AAS Crisis Center Division Chair



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Proceeding(s)	<input type="text" value="suicide"/>
Name(s) of Filer(s)	<div>18-336   Implementation of the National <b>Suicide</b> Hotline Improvement Act of 2018</div> <div>*Required - Add Filer(s). Press ENTER key after each entry</div>
Law Firm(s)	<input type="text" value="Add Lawfirm(s). Press ENTER key after each entry"/>
Attorney/Author Name(s)	<input type="text" value="Add Author(s). Press ENTER key after each entry"/>
Primary Contact Email	<input type="text" value="example@email.com"/>

## Donate Today

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Thank you for your interest in The Speedy Foundation. We will share news and events in the area of mental health and suicide prevention. Thank you for your support!



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